Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I have already given you what expenditure we will have to incur on these depots. Then we have to consider whether we can run them without incurring any loss. Further I wish to bring to the notice of the House that our villages have no cluster of houses. The houses in our villages are very distant so that we cannot run these on business lines.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim (*Cranganur*): Will the Government inform the House as to what will be the initial cost for one depot?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): According to the advice given to me by the Department, it is Rs. 2,000 to start with and Rs. 200 recurring every year.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): What is this Rs. 2,000 for?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): To put up a shed for keeping this manure. The building and the necessary accessories will cost Rs. 2,000. That is the information I have gathered from the Department.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): If the building is rented in the first instance, will Rs. 2,000 be necessary?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): No. But then the rent will have to be paid. If the recurring expenditure of Rs. 200 and the rent we have to pay are taken into account, both of these will come up to a good amount.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): My suggestion was to open these at suitable centres and not in every village.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): That will be considered. I think even now there are certain depots at certain suitable centres.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES—MARKETING FACILITIES, ETC.

153. Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether it thinks of opening any Government Depots for the purchase of the products of cottage industries;

(*b*) will the Government be pleased to take some effective step at improving the market for the products of the cottage industries?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): (*a*) and (*b*) The question of providing marketing facilities for the

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products of cottage industries is under the consideration of Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I may supplement the answer by saying that the final decision has alone to be taken in this matter. The reports have already been received and we ar scrutinising them by way of thorough examination, because before we undertake these matters, we should be very careful about the success of our undertakings.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim (*Cranganur*): Can I get, Sir, some information about the coir depots in Cochin?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): That is also under consideration. This matter requires a lot of thinking before we can launch upon the scheme. Otherwise, we will undertake some of these schemes and the whole thing will collapse. So all the details have to be worked out. We are doing it. Apart from their ordinary work, the officers cannot get much time for these. But they are devoting all available time at their disposal on these matters.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim (*Cranganur*): This matter was under consideration for a long time now. I wish the Hon'ble Minister will expedite matters.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Unless we are sure of the success, Government money should not be wasted. While I will be ready to spend money for useful purposes, I will also be very careful that no public money is wasted on unsuccessful schemes.

KUNNAMKULAM GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY—PARTICULARS REGARDING.

154. Mr. C. V. Iyyu (*Kunnamkulam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) who was the Secretary of the Kunnamkulam Government Servants' Co-operative Society in 1111 and 1112;

(*b*) when did the general body meeting of the above Society elect the new managing committee in 1112;

(*c*) who convened the newly elected committee and the date as to when was the committee convened;

(*d*) the date on which the new Secretary took charge from the management?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): (*a*) Mr. N. V. Uzhuthra Warriar till 3rd Thulam 1112 and Mr. O. Krishnankutty Menon from 4th Thulam 1112.

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